

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Early Intervention Committee

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

**Meeting Date
April 9, 2013
10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Amy Simpson - chair
Linda Borghols
Karli Lopez
Meredith Jaecks
Lizette Stiehr

Community Members:

Beth Kaplan
Mary Elam
Sharon Bohjanen

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant
 Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 a.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome and Announcements

Review of the Council Mission Statement

Amy Simpson reviewed the Council's mission statement adapted for the EIC: "Creating change that improves the lives of infants and toddlers with disabilities."

Announcements

Christie Reinhardt welcomed Mary Elam, who is the new executive director at Stone Soup Group, to the EIC meeting.

Upcoming Trainings/Meetings

- Full Lives, Anchorage April 11th and 12th, 2013.
- Early Childhood Mental Health Conference, April 30th through May 2nd, 2013 in Anchorage
- April is National Autism Awareness Month and there are many activities around the state regarding autism awareness
- Governor's Council, May 7th through May 9th, 2013 in Anchorage
- FASD Conference, May 22nd through May 24th, 2013. There will be a FASD 101 and 102 pre-conference on May 21st, 2013

Beth Kaplan announced that she will be attending the Annual EHDI Conference in April.

Committee Business

Approval of the Agenda

Lizette Stiehr **MOVED** to approve the agenda as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Meredith Jaecks **MOVED** to approve the March 12, 2013 meeting minutes as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Amy Simpson reported that the EIC sent in their public comment on the early intervention policies and will be waiting for the next piece, which is looking at the regulations.

Annual Review of Work Plan and Five-Year Plan Goals

The committee reviewed last year's work plan as it relates to the five-year goals and noted the success of several goals including: Advocacy for the \$1.5 million increment; the collaboration between the Infant Learning Program, Mental Health Trust, and the University of Alaska relating to the qualified workforce goal; and the ongoing duties of the ICC that were completed.

EIC Priority Recommendations for Next Year

After reviewing the five-year goals, the committee developed three goals for this year's work plan in addition to the ongoing ICC duties:

1. Continue to advise and assist the State Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP) staff in policy, procedural and funding changes.
2. Support efforts to increase a well trained, highly qualified and

sufficient workforce of early intervention professionals.

3. Explore the use of technology and telepractice as a way to increase services in rural communities and access to specialists.

Partner Reports

OSC/ILP

No report was available from OSC/ILP.

AILPA

Lizette Stiehr expressed AILPA's appreciation to the Council and the Early Intervention Committee for their skill, knowledge, time, effort, and resources and for working in collaboration with AILPA in support of the increment.

Lizette Stiehr announced that she will be stepping down as president of AILPA and Laurie Thomas will be transitioning to that position.

Lizette Stiehr reported that AILPA is following up on comments on the policy documents, particularly on whether they are required to allocate infant learning resources to serve families with an IFSP after the age of three.

Lizette Stiehr noted that they are still working on the development of a billing manual that will help provide detailed support to guide programs in billing Medicaid.

Lizette Stiehr shared the good news that Erin Kinavey was chosen out of 200 nominees across the state of Alaska by the Journal of Commerce to receive a Top 40 Under 40 award. She commented that it was very powerful and thrilling to see the social work field recognized in the midst of a wide variety of nominees from the commercial arena.

EED

Meredith Jaecks commented that there were not many changes from last month's report in that they are still working on completing the regular yearly grants for districts. She noted that they have a meeting scheduled with Erin Kinavey and Part C next week and will have an update at the May meeting.

EHDI

No report from was available from EHDI.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.